

Habits of Mind



Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision

Name: _____ () Class: _____

Worksheet 1 – “Blind Men and the Elephant”

After you have listened to the story, "Blind Men and the Elephant", answer the following questions.

1. Why did the blind men fail to describe the elephant?

2. What did they fail to do as each of them was touching the elephant?

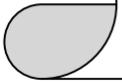
3. How could they have succeeded if they had used the habit of Thinking and Communicating with Clarity?

4. What do you think the wise men told them?

5. Think of some professions where clear thinking and communicating is important.

What are the possible consequences of unclear and imprecise communicating in such professions?

Worksheet 2

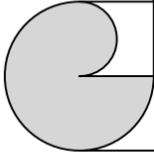


Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision leads to SUCCESS!

This person/character by the name of _____
used the Habit of Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision to achieve success in


This Habit of Mind helped him/her because

I learned from this person's success that with clear and precise thinking and communicating I can



Worksheet 3

In groups, design a WANTED poster on A3 paper. You may want to use the following format.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 20px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">WANTED: Thinking & communicating with Clarity and Precision!</p> </div> <p>Last seen with: _____ (CHARACTER - Real or fictional)</p> <p>Distinguishing Characteristics: _____ (looks like/sounds like)</p> <p>Important in the world today because: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>REWARD: _____</p>	<p>Photo/Drawing</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
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After you have completed the WANTED poster, display it prominently around the classroom. Make it as colourful as you can!

Worksheet 4

In groups, select one of the following scenarios in which using the habit of clarity and precision will help you succeed.

Scenarios:

1. Clinic - Doctor explaining diagnosis of a patient's condition to the patient.
2. Court - Lawyer defending his client.
3. Radio commentary - For a football match.
4. Student handing in homework/project.
5. Teacher conducting a science experiment.

- Explain the importance of using this HOM in the selected scenario.

- What are the possible consequences of unclear and imprecise communication?

- Identify 2 areas in your lives where you can apply this habit in the near future:

1.

2.

Worksheet 5

A Story about a Blind Man and a Glass of Milk

Story:

Once upon a time, there was a blind man named Bruce. One day, his good friend, Arnold offered him a glass of milk. Bruce did not know how milk looked like and so he asked, "What is milk?" Arnold answered, "It's white and it's good for you."

Bruce then asked, "What is 'white'?"

Arnold was stumped and tried to explain what 'white' was.

After many unsuccessful attempts trying to explain what 'white' was,

Arnold decided to let Bruce **feel** what 'white' was. Arnold brought Bruce to the park and got him to touch a white swan and told him,

"This is white." Bruce was extremely alarmed and said, "I'm not going to drink this!"

Questions:

- a) What is the learning point of the story?

- b) How does this story demonstrate the need to communicate with clarity and precision?

Let's Reflect!

How Good Am I in Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision?

- ❖ Read the rubrics given below.
- ❖ Reflect on the thought processes and actions in your daily life.
- ❖ For each criteria, circle the box which best describes you.
- ❖ After completing the rubrics, share the self-assessment with your group partner.

Criteria	Level		
	1	2	3
Proof Reading	Does not check and edit work before submission	Checks and edits work sometimes	Checks and edits work most of the time
Precision of Language	Overgeneralises most of the time	Avoids generalising sometimes	Avoids generalising most of the time
Verbal Competency	Does not speak using complete sentences	Makes a effort to use complete sentences sometimes	Uses complete sentences all the time
Use of Descriptive Language (Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives)	Does not use descriptive language	Uses descriptive language sometimes	Always uses descriptive language
Evaluation	Does not compare work to criteria	Compares work to criteria sometimes	Compares work to criteria most of the time

What I would like to share with my friends and family members about this Habit of Mind:
